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All Announcements in this column are charged at the rate of $3 per insertion.

IN MEMORIAM

In loving memory of HERBERT, the devoted husband of Ada C. Fawcett, who passed away July 3, 1934—"Love's greates' gift—Remembrance."

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IMPARTIAL NOT NEUTRAL

AN OPIUM DANGER

Grave consideration should be given to the proposals which are being made to extend to the International Settlement in Shanghai the Government's new scheme for the progressive reduction of the opium traffic within a period of six years. The scheme itself is sound and has the blessing of Geneva, in that it follows experience elsewhere by virtually legalizing the cultivation of poppy with the view of suppressing it by gradual stages. This is considered to be far more practical than the former system which under the cover of a universal prohibition actually stimulated the evil traffic owing to the enormous prices obtainable for opium manufactured under such conditions. On principle the Settlement authorities are obviously bound to give sympathetic consideration to whatever measures the Government may be disposed to commend for coping with the traffic within the limits of their jurisdiction. At present the Council's officers take steps to prevent the sale of opium in the Settlement; they apply Chinese law to the arrest of addicts where found in conditions justifying such action. They also maintain a narcotic police section which, so far as is practicable, seizes illicit stocks of opium, raid opium dens and generally assists in stamping out the traffic. Admittedly their activities fall far short of perfection, owing to the peculiar circumstances of local administration and to the limited resources at their disposal.

Apparently it is now proposed that the Council should adopt certain measures for co-operating in the six-year plan by establishing a special suppression organization which will work on the basis of legalizing the sale of opium on the monopoly principle. Under this scheme addicts will be registered and licensed by co-operation with the Chinese authorities and certain appointments will be made by the Government with the Council's acquiescence for the supervision and direction of the progressive reduction programme. On the face of it this scheme is admirable, especially as it has been approved by the League of Nations Advisory Committee in its general application to China. On that point the views of the Anti-Opium Information Bureau recorded on June 1, 1937 are relevant:

> The situation in China proves the wisdom of the Chinese Government in re-legalizing opium and its sincerity in its efforts to reduce the cultivation of opium. The Six-year Opium Suppression Plan of General Chiang Kai-shek promises to prove effective, if the situation created by the flooding of China with clandestinely manufactured narcotic drugs does not prevent the Government enforcing its suppression plan according to the time schedule established by General Chiang Kai-shek. Credit is due to the Chinese Government for the progress achieved. There remains, however, much to be done before the Government can overcome certain vested interests behind the illicit traffic in China.

The Shanghai Municipal Council has carefully to take its knowledge of local conditions into account with special reference to the last sentence of that statement.

This journal has no hesitation in asserting that local influences of most sinister significance would immediately develop their baleful activities if what amounts to a legalized monopoly were established in the Settlement under cover of a six-year suppression plan. Already discussion of the proposed appointments to the suppression organization has evoked the mention of names which arouse the gravest apprehensions. The Council is in a most difficult position. If it refuses to co-operate in the scheme it will be open to criticism as obstructing a beneficent reform. If it unreservedly offers its co-operation it will be exposing the Settlement to the menace of a gangster traffic far exceeding anything hitherto known here in dimensions and potentiality for evil. No-one questions the Government's good faith, but the Council, as the representative body of an international community whose Governments are all pledged to relentless war on the drug traffic, cannot afford to risk its good name by allowing dubious machinery to be installed within its jurisdiction. Knowing as it does the unscrupulous impudence of certain local interests it should be able to insist that the monopoly set up to effect suppression should be put in hands which are beyond question independent of any local pressure, and command unhesitating confidence from respectable citizens. The Government has such men at its disposal—men who can be trusted to act fearlessly and, if need be, ruthlessly against traffickers and gangsters, however highly placed, however powerfully protected. Its local officials, admirable though they may be, should not be exposed to the danger of pressure from the local kings of the underworld, whose sinister power has all too long been condoned. Fortunately this issue now raises the question of the immunity which these "kings" have enjoyed to their own enrichment and to the wholesale exploitation of the community. The Municipal Council has to decide whether it will give the weight of its authority to extension of this wicked and illicit régime or whether it will strengthen the forces of good order and decent government by making its co-operation in the Six-year Opium Suppression Plan conditional upon the adoption of measures expressly designed to stamp out the opium traffic and with it the nauseating gangsterdom which sullies the civic reputation of Shanghai. The decision is too grave for the Council to make solely on its own responsibility. There is ample ground for suggesting that it should be made after full and frank consultation with the Consular Body on whom, with the acquiescence of the Government at Nanking, responsibility for the administration of the Settlement ultimately rests.

A SILVER JUBILEE

Congratulations to a great organization were appropriately given by Sir Hughe Knatchbull-Hugessen at the dinner celebrating the Silver Jubilee of the Kailan Mining Association. It was specially pleasant to note His Excellency's tribute to the Association's progressive and enlightened policy in the handling of its labour problems. As an example of Sino-British co-operation in the industrial development of China the Association has a well-merited reputation to which the British Ambassador happily drew attention. The point has considerable importance in these days when public opinion is seriously exercised over conditions which obtain in certain industries in this country, particularly in that industry which the Association has so successfully developed. By its employment of modern devices for the technical operations of its staff and for the provision of proper amenities of life for its 40,000 employees the Kailan Mining Association has set a splendid example which evokes special fervour in the good wishes now extended to it for the continuance of its prosperous and beneficent enterprise.

INTERPRETATION NEEDED

Mr. Koki Hirota has naturally a paternal pride in the three principles which he enunciated nearly two years ago in the endeavour to smooth out the ruffled relations between China and Japan. They received various interpretations but perhaps the most reliable version is that given by Mr. Hirota himself in the Diet on Jan. 21, 1936:

> (1) Basic adjustment of Sino-Japanese relations, with China not only ceasing all unfriendly acts but effectively co-operating with Japan.
> (2) Regularization of relations between Manchoukuo and China with the provision of temporary measures to prevent trouble pending China's recognition of Manchoukuo.
> (3) Co-operation with China for the eradication of Communism.

The latest version succinctly telegraphed by Reuter from Tokyo interprets the three points as covering Sino-Japanese endeavours to combat communism, "absolute control of anti-Japanese activities in China," "the conclusion of a Sino-Japanese economic entente." It is understood that Mr. Hirota is also disposed to reaffirm the policy of the "new concept" in dealing with Chinese affairs. It would seem that some deftness in reconciling the two principles will have to be invoked for the "new concept" definitely accepts the basis of equality which, on the surface, seems to be imperfectly recognized in certain aspects of the three points, however they be regarded.

A SHANGHAI LINK

As was noted at the time of his death last month, the late Sir Cecil Hanbury, Member of Parliament for North Dorset, was a former Shanghailander, being a partner in the firm of Ward & Hanbury with extensive knowledge of the Far East. It was perhaps not fully realized that as the son of the late Sir Thomas Hanbury, he had even stronger associations with Shanghai and his father's name is remembered in the Thomas Hanbury Public Schools as well as in the Hanbury institute. The Hanbury family have been connected with Italy for over seventy years, Sir Cecil having inherited his father's beautiful estate at La Mortola, Ventimiglia. He felt himself strongly opposed to the British Government's attitude on the Abyssinian question, although in other respects he was a faithful supporter of the Conservative policy. He also inherited his father's charitable instincts for which he found scope in his Italian journeys. In recognition of his generosity the King of Italy, on the direct recommendation of Signor Mussolini, bestowed on him the title of Eommendatore and the Grand Cross of the Cordon of the Crown of Italy. Lady Hanbury shared her husband's political views and is said to have been the first Englishwoman enrolled as a Fascist. Sir Cecil's Dorset seat was Kingston Maurward. He entered Parliament in 1924 by wresting North Dorset from the Liberals.

SHANGHAI'S TRAMS

"Few places in the Settlement are not within a couple of yards of a tram or trolley bus." In an interesting survey of the rise and development of the tramway system of Shanghai "Oriental Affairs" for July comes to this conclusion. In cheapness of fares, immunity from accident—in 1936 there were only 1.39 accidents to every million passengers carried and "in May 1937, when 10,847,000 passengers were carried trams were concerned in only 15 accidents involving minor personal injuries"—satisfactorily steady dividends—never less than 11 or more than 13 per cent. during the last ten years, the yield at the present price of the shares (£2:6s) being 5.7 per cent.—regular employment given to 2,750 men, and the important contribution which they make to the solution of the transport problem of Shanghai, to say nothing of the $285,000 which they pay in royalties to the Settlement's revenues, the trams constitute a valuable part of Shanghai's civic machinery. They carried over 112 million passengers in 1936. The through running established with the excellent French Concession tramway system adds of course to the general usefulness of both organizations. It would be satisfactory if that wise co-ordination in the public interest could be imitated by other utility transport services.

ST. IVES FAITHFUL

The Government has reason to be agreeably surprised by its candidate's sucessful assault on the fickle constituency of St. Ives. Such is the strength of the personality of that stalwart independent Liberal, Mr. Isaac Foot, who tempers his opposition with occasionally generous support of the Government—of which, indeed, he was a member as Parliamentary Secretary to the Mines Department from Nov. 1931 to Sept. 1932—that it might have been expected that St. Ives would pay heed to his wooing. Moreover he carries considerable weight in Cornwall, having sat for Bodmin, from 1922 to 1924 and from 1924 to 1935, his two sons being also contestants at the last General Election, one failing to carry the strong Unionist seat at Basingstoke, the other being duly elected for Dundee as a Liberal. However, Mr. A. Beechman has been able to convince the hardheaded farmers of St. Ives that his Liberalism is no whit stronger than that of his older and more experienced political opponent. He certainly is a worthy recruit to the House of Commons. When the War broke out he was head boy at Westminster School and joined the Army as a second-lieutenant at the age of 18. He won the Military Cross, was promoted captain and it is recorded that at Paschendaele he received nine wounds in a quarter of an hour. Graduating at Oxford after the War he was the first post-War undergraduate president of the Oxford Liberal Club. A barrister by profession, he has devoted himself to economic and social questions. In calling on St. Ives to support him he maintained that his Liberalism was exactly the same brand as that of the former member now Viscount Runciman. The appeal has been allowed, as the Courts would say, by a small but sufficient majority.

PITY MAX SCHMELING

The chopping and changing in the arrangements for the fight—or fights—for the world's heavyweight boxing championship have taken the title one step further along the road to confusion than could have been desired by the most earnest advocates of muddle. Tommy Farr, British and Empire champion, has now agreed to meet Joe Louis, conqueror of the former world's champion, Jim Braddock, for the crown. It should be noted that Farr has not yet signed a contract to meet Louis; and therefore the arrangements for the fight may not have progressed beyond the bargaining stage. Farr was to have fought Max Schmeling, the German champion who knocked out Louis last year, for the world's title as recognized by the International Boxing Union, but apparently the terms offered to Farr were not acceptable, and Farr's manager has lent a ready ear to the whisperings of Mike Jacobs, the American promoter who has Louis in his pocket—and lots of dollars besides. It is too early yet to say whether the statement by Ted Broadribb, Farr's manager, that he had accepted Jacob's offer is or is not a lever to increase the share of the purse offered to Farr in the fight with Schmeling. Similar tentative acceptances for other bouts have been known before in order to "raise the ante." If, however, the acceptance is a genuine one, there will be sympathy with Schmeling, who seems to be getting the raw parts of all the recent big boxing deals. His claim to fight Louis is undoubtedly better than Farr's; his claim to fight Braddock was undoubtedly better than Louis's. Yet in both cases he seems to have been left on the outside. If the fight between Farr and Louis materializes, it will be an interesting event in boxing history, for it will be the first time since 1902, when Jim Jeffries knocked out Bob Fitzsimmons from whom he took the title in 1899, that a boxer born in the British Isles has been reckoned a serious contender for the championship. Since then, of course, there have been citizens of the British empire who have held the title—Tommy Burns—and have had serious pretensions to it—Tom Heeny, the New Zealander who was knocked out by Gene Tunney. But otherwise there has been no one in the British empire who has been near enough to championship class in the heavyweight division to merit serious consideration.

THE WEATHER

The temperature near Holy Trinity Cathedral, Shanghai, for 24 hours ending 7 p.m.

Yesterday	Min. 74.0 Max. 84.0
Same date, 1936	Min. 77.5 Max. 93.0

Rainfall Nil.

Siccawei Recordings:—

Yesterday	Min. 72.5 Max. 84.0
Same date, 1936	Min. 76.5 Max. 81.3

Siccawei's Report

State on the morning of the 1st:—Pressure rather high and falling over Korea and Japan. Normal and steady over China. Typhoon over the Pacific moving west by north. North-westerly to north-easterly winds along the China Coast. Cloudy and hot weather in China.

State on the morning of the 2nd:—Cloudy and sultry weather. Some rain drops. South-easterly wind. Pressure rather low and steady.

Probabilities, 4.30 p.m. yesterday:—Overcast and hot weather with thundery rain and cyclonic circulation around Shantung, owing to the depression passing east-north-eastward. Overcast and hot with thunder and south-easterly to south-westerly winds in the mean and the lower Yangtze Valley. Cloudy with variable winds over the Eastern Sea and Formosa. Cyclonic rough weather over north Luzon, owing to the typhoon advancing west by north. Typhoon signal at 2 p.m., within 120 miles, latitude 18, longitude 126, intensity: unknown, direction west by north.—Siccawei Observatory.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

B.W.A. Social Service Board.—

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